Hillary Strengholt 2313 McMullan Circle Raleigh, NC 27608

January 14, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530
Fax 202-616-9937
microsoft.atr@usdoc.gov

Dear Ms. Hesse:

I write to express support for the proposed settlement in the federal government's antitrust case against Microsoft.

As a third-grade teacher at Weatherstone Elementary School in Cary, North Carolina, I see every day the importance of computers and technology in the lives and futures of my students.

I strongly believe that the needs of these students – and the overall needs of our nation and our economy – would be far better served by settling this case than by further costly and debilitating litigation.

The analyses that I have seen indicate that the settlement strikes a difficult balance between penalizing Microsoft for the wrongs it may have committed in the marketplace and assuring continued progress and innovation in this important industry.

I hope that the settlement will be approved so that all concerned can go to work on more important matters.

Sincerely,

Hillary Strengholt

Salter